

## Editorial

Imphal, Thursday, November 12, 2015

### Fixing the broken window

Consider a building with a few broken windows. If the windows are not repaired, the tendency is for vandals to break a few more windows. Eventually, they may even break into the building, and if it's unoccupied, perhaps become squatters or light fires inside. Or consider a pavement. Some litter accumulates. Soon, more litter accumulates. Eventually, people even start leaving bags of refuse from take-out restaurants there or even break into cars. If the concept is to be applied to the law and order situation in our society with special emphasis to the prevailing system of administration and governance, one would find the same psychological response to the prevailing situation. This very social phenomena is termed the Broken Window Theory - introduced by James Q. Wilson and George L. Kelling in an article titled Broken Windows, in the March 1982 The Atlantic Monthly following an experiment by Philip Zimbardo, a Stanford psychologist who tested the theory in 1969. Unsurprisingly for many, the test concluded that vandalism, or for that matter, most forms of social disturbances occur much more quickly as the community generally seems apathetic. Similar events can occur in any civilized community when communal barriers - the sense of mutual regard and obligations of civility - are lowered by actions that suggest apathy. In other words, the theory posits that the prevalence of disorder creates fear in the minds of citizens who are convinced that the area is unsafe. This withdrawal from the community weakens social controls that previously kept criminals in check. Once this process begins, it feeds itself. Disorder causes crime, and crime causes further disorder and crime. A lot of social discrepancies - between the accepted social norms and the ground reality can be explained based on this theory. The snowballing effect of corruption, favoritism, unrest and elitism being increasingly experienced by the general public in the state can be understood more clearly and objectively when one understands the psychology behind the cause of such undesirable social occurrences. But understanding the cause is not the panacea to the festering problem, it is rather the beginning of a long and tedious process of reforms and redressals which should be pursued relentlessly. But the task at hand is easier said than done. The present system of administration and governance which has been consciously shaped and engineered to comply and conform to the interests of a precious few having access to power and connections, with the added bonus of having in place various mechanisms to protect and cover the nefarious activities and conniving characteristics of those fortunate few, needs to be pulled down and a radical system to administration and governance has to be drawn up to be implemented without further ado. In short, an overhauling of the deep rooted social evils and malpractices that has been inextricably intertwined with the present system is the need of the hour. If the present government does not have the gumption to own up and make the much delayed changes, the general public will be forced to act on their behalf. Time to fix the broken window is running out for the government.

### 8 people killed in militant attack in Egypt

**PII**  
**Cairo, Nov. 12:** At least eight members of a family, including a child, have been killed and one injured in an attack by unknown militants in Egypt's restive north Sinai province. "The attack on the family happened yesterday when masked militants attacked their house. Eight people were killed and one person was severely injured," Abdel Fattah Harhor, North Sinai governor said. "The militants planted bombs in a car parking area near the house that had six vehicles," security sources said. Residents of the neighbourhood described the explosion as huge.

"Primary investigation shows that the killed people belonged to same family from Rafah. Police forces are currently searching for attackers responsible for the incident," Harhor said. Egypt's North Sinai has witnessed many violent attacks by militants against police and army personnel since the January 2011 revolution that toppled the ex-president Hosni Mubarak. This incident is one of few that targeted civilians. The attacks targeting police and military increased after the ouster of Islamist ex-president Mohamed Morsi in 2013 by military following massive protests against his rule.

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# Contestations for Sovereignty over Land and Natural Resources: A Legal Perspective on the Political Economy of the Manipur-India Conflict

Contd from yesterday

Part II underscores the political economy of the conflict. It argues that the political economy of the conflict itself sustains the conflict. The exploitation of natural resources witnessed in multiple forms - construction of giant dams for hydro-electric projects, acquisition of vast areas of arable and habitat lands, oil and natural gas explorations, developing wildlife and tourist spots, corporatisation of essential public services, dispossession and relocation of local inhabitants to the extent of depriving their means of sustenance, smuggling of natural resources, inter alia suppresses the well-being of the peoples. The benefits of exploitation are being reaped by key stakeholders which includes the State and its agencies and local elites. These development processes have denied and deprived peoples' of their means of subsistence and are left without any life supporting systems. This is genocide. The Indian State is committing genocide in Manipur. Genocide does not necessarily mean mass slaughter of peoples in a particular time frame. The crux of the 1948 Genocide convention is the intent to destroy a national, racial, religious, ethnic group in whole or part. Deprivations of the means of subsistence of peoples through aggressive development processes constitute cultural genocide. 20,000 persons killed of 19 lakh indigenous peoples of Manipur constitute physical genocide. Mass rapes and sexual violence against women of

Manipur by the Indian armed forces constitutes biological genocide as it aims to inflict conditions on the people to destroy their identity. Rape as a means of genocide was upheld by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in 1994 (Akeyasu case).

Part III argues that Indian State is administering power in Manipur. It is because the people of Manipur have been demanding the privilege to exercise the right to self-determination against the Indian State. Since early 1960s, Manipur national liberation movements as represented by the Revolutionary People's Front (RPF) and United National Liberation Front (UNLFF) among others have been demanding end of Indian rule and independence from India. Manipur peoples have not been able to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. Therefore, Manipur peoples are occupied peoples. Participation of peoples in elections conducted under the Election Commission of India is farce. It is because peoples are being bribed to vote. In other words, candidates buy votes from peoples and people sell their votes to get some easy money and for some consideration. People of Manipur have not exercised their right to self-determination and therefore, they constitute non-self governing territory. Article 73 of the UN Charter obliges the administering State to regard the interests of the occupied peoples as paramount and sacred trust of civilisation and to take measures

for their well being. If the people of Manipur are allowed to express their best interests by holding a plebiscite under the supervision of UN, and if according to that outcome participate in the Indian election processes, then it can be said that the people of Manipur have exercised their right to self-determination and are no longer occupied peoples. Further, revocation of Manipur visa system in 1950 by the Indian Union and subsequent denial of adopting a regulation to protect lands, natural resources and cultural identity of the peoples is serious. Article 19 (1) (e) fundamental right to settle and reside in any part of India has in fact indirectly encouraged people from other states of India to settle and subsequently acquire interests in lands and natural resources and political - economic administration of Manipur. Transfer of population of the occupying power directly or indirectly into the territory of the occupied peoples is prohibited by article 49 (6) of the Fourth Geneva Convention 1949. Indian is a high contracting party to this Geneva Convention. Further, under List I of the Seven Schedule of the Indian constitution, entries 53, 54 and 56 empowers the parliament to make laws regarding oilfields, petroleum and its products; mines and mineral development; and Inter-State River and river valleys. More drastic is the fact that under entry 97 of List I, the Union Parliament can make any law with regard to any matter which are not enumerated under any of the lists

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-residual power. The prohibition of exploitation, export and trade of natural resources of occupied peoples was also re-affirmed by the International Court of Justice in a number of cases such as the Armed Activities in Congo (DRC v. Uganda), East Timor, Construction of Wall case, etc. It is argued that the natural resources of Manipur cannot be exploited by the Indian State until the people have exercised their sovereignty over natural resources which lie at the core of the right to self-determination guaranteed by UN Charter and instruments such as the ICCPR and ICESCR.

The paper concludes by arguing that the Indian State is not interested in resolving the conflict rather it is benefited from the conflict itself. This is evidenced from the peace processes where major insurgent groups like the ULFA, NSCN (both factions) have engaged the GOI to find out a lasting solution. Recently, a Wikileaks source informed that the GOI is not interested in resolving the conflict as appeared in The Assam Tribune in 2013. The CM of Manipur also reiterated that the GOI is not going to revoke AFSPA from Manipur. All these evidences suggest that GOI is not interested in resolving the conflict rather to maintain or manage the conflict to its advantage.

(Concluded)

## National & International News

### Two Maoists killed in Odisha's Sundergarh District

**ANI**  
**Odisha, Nov.12:** At least two Maoists have been killed during a search and combing operation by a joint team of the police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

According to preliminary reports, the encounter is underway in Odisha's Sundergarh District and further details are awaited.

In Odisha, the Maoists are dominant in the districts of Gajapati, Ganjam, Kandhamal, Keonjhar, Jajpur, Dhenkanal, Mayurbhanj, Sambalpur, Deogarh, Sundergarh and Nayagarh.

While the state's police force has claimed that left-wing extremism is gradually being brought under control, they admit that they still face a challenging situation in dealing with the menace in parts of Malkangiri, Koraput, Bolangir, Nuapada, Rayagada, Baragarh, Kalahandi and Nabarangpur Districts.

Currently, according to the state

government and the state's police force, the Maoists have been trying to consolidate in the districts of Malkangiri, Koraput, Nabarangpur, Rayagada, Nuapada, Bolangir, Baragarh and Kalahandi.

The rebels are also trying to regroup and revive their activities in the Sambalpur-Deogarh-Sundergarh range as well as in the

Kalinga Nagar Divisions by fresh induction of cadres. The Odisha Government says that it has been focusing on capacity up gradation of security forces and the security infrastructure in the affected areas, strategic deployment of security forces to dominate the area and conduct effective operations against the armed

Maoist formations, and precisely targeting important Maoist cadres / leaders by intelligence based operations. The focus is also on seamless coordination with paramilitary forces deployed in the state and also with the Maoist-affected neighbouring states and also with the Centre to deal with the problem effectively.

## More State News

### Assam Rifles distributes water storage tanks

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov. 12:** 8 Assam Rifles of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) distributed four Water Storage Tanks with storage capacity of 2000 liters each to Wapang and Hoachong villages of Tamenglong District under the Military Civic Action Projects on 10 November 2015. The project will facilitate in improving the availability of water in the village area. The Water Storage Tanks were handed

over by Commandant of 8 Assam Rifles to the Village Authority in presence of local populace. Speaking on the occasion, The Commandant of the unit lauded the support of villagers to the Assam Rifles in restoring normalcy in the area and said that the provisioning of water storage tank will indeed go a long way in uplifting the living standards of the villagers and provide much needed water in the village. He further assured that

Assam Rifles stand committed for the upliftment of the people of Manipur and will ensure development of basic infrastructure in remote areas for the development and social upliftment. While giving vote of thanks village chairman and Secretary expressed their profound gratitude and said that this step under 'Military Civic Action would definitely help in improving the lives of the locals of the village.

### Assam Rifles organises Diwali celebration

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov. 12:** 12 BIHAR of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised the Diwali celebrations at Green Academy School, Paubitek on 10

November 2015. A total of 250 students to include teachers, administrative staff and other prominent personalities of the village participated in the celebrations. Gifts, sweets, crackers

and candles were distributed by the battalion which brought much cheer and joy among the students. The Principle of the School expressed his gratitude towards this noble gesture rendered by the Assam Rifles.

### Assam Rifles saves snake bite victim

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov. 12:** The medical team of 12 BIHAR of 9 Sector Assam Rifle under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) saved life of a snake bite victim on 10 November 2015. The victim named

Roshan, aged 16 years, Village- Thanginchiru, Dist Senapati was bitten by a snake and was immediately rushed to the unit hospital of 12 BIHAR in critical condition. The victim was readily

attended by the medical team and necessary first aid was administered. The medical aid and sport extended by the unit, was highly appreciated by the family members of the individual and the village head.